ങ്ങൾ പുറമെ കയററി അയയ്ക്കാനും നമുക്കു സാധിക്കുമെന്ന എനിക്കുറപ്പുണ്ട്. കുന്തിപ്പുഴ എലക്ട്രിസിററി പദ്ധതി കഴിഞ്ഞു മൂന്നുനാലു കൊല്ലമായിട്ടു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിന്റെ ആലോചനയിലിരിക്കയാണ്. കാഞ്ഞിരപ്പുഴ പദ്ധതിയും ആലോചനയിലുണ്ട്. മററു പല പദ്ധതികൾക്കും തെക്കെ മലബാറിലെന്നപോലെ വടക്കെ മലബാറിലും സാദ്ധ്യതയുണ്ട്. വിദ്യുച്ഛക്തി ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടുതന്നെ നേരിട്ടു ഏറെറടുക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഗ്രാമപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ വിദ്യുച്ഛക്തി വിതരണം ചെയ്യാനുള്ള സൌകര്യം കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്. അക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ട് പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധവയ്ക്കണമെന്ന ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു."

* THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, I thank hon. Members for their very valuable co-operation and their constructive criticisms in considering this Bill. I may tell Mr. Palaniyandi—although I have not mentioned this earlier—that he need not be sceptical about assistance to licensees. Mr. Raja Chidambaram has also said that the amount set apart by the State Government, viz., 10 lakhs of rupees is not sufficient for even one taluk. Here I may tell him that we are going to get loans from the Government of India to finance these undertakings and I would like to assure the House that until such time as we take over the undertakings, we shall see that the licensees are provided with enough and more funds either by the State Government or the Central Government so that rural development can go on and keep pace with the people's wishes. Then, Sir, Mr. Gopalan Unni, I feel, was pleading for Malabar although I could not understand his speech. Let me in this connexion point out that on all occasions when I spoke of Malabar I always confessed that Malabar was a backward area and let me assure him that Malabar will receive my foremost attention. Let him understand that once the Kundah Scheme is completed, for which we are hoping so much, Malabar will be the richest district in point of supply of electricity. With this assurance to Mr. Gopalan Unni, let me once again acknowledge the co-operation that Members of this House have given to me in getting through the Bill without delay."

MR. SPEAKER :—The question is—

'That the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill, 1954, as amended, be passed into law.' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill as amended was passed into law.

V.—HALF-HOUR DEBATE *RE* THE SHIFTING OF THE SITE OF THE HERBARIUM.

MR. SPEAKER :—" We shall take up the half-hour debate on Herbarium now. I allot ten minutes for Mr. T. C. Narayanan Nambiar, five minutes for Mr. Nagarajan, five minutes for Mr. Palaniyandi and ten minutes for the Minister to reply."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" I thought the half-hour debate was on the Mahe incident. I do not want to speak on this."

15th May 1954]

* SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Last time, Mr. Speaker, when an interpellation was put to the Hon. Minister for Health and Medicine on the shifting of the site of the Herbarium, the Minister answered on the floor of the House that the Aquarium was under the charge of the Fisheries Department. 12-30 p.m.

" I would like to inform the House that now the Government are not at all bestowing the attention which they ought to bestow on the Ayurvedic form of treatment. For example it is very essential that medicinal herbs, plants, etc., which are very essential for the Principal, students and lecturers should be grown in the vicinity of the College of Indigenous Medicine. The medicinal garden, that is, the herbarium should be situated near the College premises. Otherwise it is not possible to give adequate training for the students studying in the College of Indigenous Medicine to get a thorough knowledge of the medicinal herbs, plants and vines grown in the herbarium. By shifting the herbarium the Government have completely denied the opportunity to students to learn the value of our medicinal herbs. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to submit in this connexion that the purpose of a herbarium is mainly educational. The students who are undergoing training in the College of Indigenous Medicine should get acquainted with the use of these medicinal herbs in combating diseases."

MR. SPEAKER :—" There is no quorum. The hon. Member ought to have invited his friends to be here. The absence of hon. Members shows the interest they are having in this subject."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" If you ring the bell, they will come, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" All right."
(The bell was rung and some hon. Members arrived.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" Even now there is no quorum. Let the hon. Member finish his speech quickly. Simply because I have allowed a half-hour debate it does not mean that we should take up all the time. We can finish it in ten minutes and disperse."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Government have not shown any interest in the herbarium and in Ayurveda."

MR. SPEAKER :—" How can you blame the Government simply because they have shifted the herbarium? "

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" I shall show that because of the shifting of the herbarium, the students are put to a lot of difficulty and consequently they are prevented from possessing an adequate knowledge of medicinal herbs and plants. That is why I say Government have not shown any interest in Ayurveda.

" The very essence of Ayurveda and Siddha systems of medicine is that they are based on the use of indigenous plants, herbs and vines. The pupils undergoing study in the College of Indigenous Medicine have got to identify these plants and vines. If the herbarium is not attached to the college, it will not be possible either for the Principal or the lecturers concerned to teach their pupils by practical demonstration the use of these valuable herbs. They have to go on an excursion to the herbarium some day or other. I am afraid that one day Government might come forward and say that because of the small number of pupils visiting the herbarium they might even close it for ever. In this way even the college may be closed one day. This is how Government have shown their apathy towards the indigenous system of medicine, which our ancients have practised for centuries.

" A certain plant is said to have been grown in the herbarium attached to this College. From that plant a sort of musk has been produced, called ' kasturi '. Its yield had been extracted for some practical demonstration purposes. The plant is now no more."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Since we do not have quorum, the hon. Member may finish it quickly."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Yes, Sir. For the last two or three months criticisms have been levelled against the apathy the Government have shown in regard to the indigenous system of medicine. I want the Hon. the Minister for Health and Medicine to make a declaration on the floor of the House that Government are *not* against the indigenous system of medicine and that they would give all possible encouragement for the spread of that system. With these words, I shall finish my speech as there is no quorum."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது கொண்டு வந்திருக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் ஆயுர்வேத மருந்து முறைகளைப்பற்றி சென்ற பட்ஜெட்டிலேயே விவாதம் நடந்தது என்பது மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியும். சென்னை மாகாணம் பூராவும், ஏன் ? இந்தியா பூராவுமே எடுத்துக்கொள்வோமானால் கிராமங்களில் சரியான மருந்து வசதிகள் கிடையாது.

"சாதாரணமாக கிராமங்களிலே இந்த ஆயுர்வேத மூறை வைத்தியத்தை தான் கையாளுகிறார்கள். 1939-ம்ஞூபத்தில் மந்திரி சபையில் இருந்த ஸ்ரீ T.S.S. ராஜன் எழுதிய புத்தகத்தைப் பார்த்தால், இந்த முறைகளின் விவரம் விவரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நான் குழந்தையாயிருக்கும்போது எனக்கு உடம்பு சரியாக இல்லையென்றால் கஷாயம் வைத்துக்கொடுப்பார்கள். அதன் மூலமாக நோய்கள் தீரும். ஏன், இன்றும் இம்முறை பல இடங்களில் கையாளப்பட்டு வருகிறது."

MR. SPEAKER :—" சபையில் ' கோரம் ' இல்லாததினால் மிகவும் அகோரமாக இருக்கிறது."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" இப்பொழுது நமக்கு மூலிகைகளைப்பற்றி நன்றாகத் தெரியவேண்டும். இதுதான் நம் நாட்டின் பொக்கிஷம். மூலிகைகளைக் கையாளும் முறைகள் காப்பாற்றப்படவேண்டும். இதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஆதரவு காட்டி வேண்டிய உதவிகளை செய்ய முன்வரவேண்டும். இங்குள்ள ஆயுர்வேத காலேஜில் இந்த மூலிகைகளைக் கையாளும் முறை

15th May 1954] [Sri M. Palaniyandi]

கள் கற்பிக்கப்படவேண்டும். ஏழை எளியவர்கள் பயன் பெறக்கூடிய முறையில் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் வசதிகள் செய்யப்படவேண்டும். முக்கிய மாக கிராமங்களில் வாழும் மக்களுக்கு குறைந்த பக்ஷ மருந்து வசதிகள் செய்துகொடுக்க அரசாங்கம் முன்வரவேண்டும். மற்றும் இப் பழங்கால வைத்திய முறைகள் மறைந்து விடாமல் நகாங்களிலும் இதை விஸ்தரிக்க வேண்டும். இம் மூலிகைகளை ஏழை எளியவர்களுக்கு உதவக்கூடிய மிகச் சிறந்த பொக்கிஷம். ஆதலால் இதை அரசரங்கம் காப்பாற்றி எல்லோருக்கும் பயன்படும்படியாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு, சபையில் கோரம் இல்லையென்று சபாநாயகர் சொல்வதினால், என் பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

Sri N. RATHINA GOUNDER :—"ஹோமியோபதி முறைகளைப் பற்றி பேசுவதற்கு எப்பொழுது அனுமதி தரப்போகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Gentleman Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar said that I used the word 'aquarium' for 'herbarium.' That word was used by one of the hon. Members and I drew his attention to the fact that aquarium is a place where we keep fish and that herbarium is quite different. Even the word 'herbarium' is wrong. 'Herbarium' means a collection of dry herbs. The name has been changed into 'medicinal farm' because we grow medicinal plants in the farm." 12-40 p.m.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" On a point of information, Sir. I was using that expression in my speech."

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon. Member seems to have been misled by some correspondence which appeared in the daily press, the correspondence published by some interested persons who are spreading wrong information about the hospital or the College of Indigenous Medicine and what the Government are doing for them. This so-called herbarium—a wrong name—was located in a small plot of land, about two grounds in extent, within the Hospital and the College compound. It was first shifted during the Second World War to another small plot of land within the same compound. In 1947, the then Special Officer in charge of this institution proposed that we should have a more extensive plot of land for growing medicinal plants. No such plot of land was available in this College and Hospital. If private lands were to be acquired, we would have had to pay a very heavy price. So a plot of land, 14·16 acres in extent, as against the 2 grounds or 1/9th of an acre we had in the College compound, has been taken up. It is only at a distance of one mile and two furlongs and about one hundred varieties of medicinal plants have been planted there. There are three wells and it is proposed to put up more wells or to have a tube-well. The engineering people are being consulted in this matter. Seven and odd acres of this plot of land have already been fenced and the cultivation of medicinal plants has been taken up there. There is now a proposal for fencing the remaining half of the plot which is about seven and a half acres. At no time was it contemplated that this medicinal farm should be closed. The attempt made now is to have a more extensive plot

[Sri A. B. Shetty] [15th May 1954

of land and to have more medicinal plants. Therefore I submit that this charge that the Government wanted to close down this medicinal farm is entirely without basis. We have the following staff to look after this medicinal farm :—

1 Farm Superintendent of gazetted rank,

1 Assistant Superintendent,

2 gardeners-*cum*-watchmen, and

coolies are employed according to the needs of the time.

"I do not wish to go into the general question as to what the Government have done to develop and improve the work that is being done at this College and Hospital. The Government have recently issued a press communique in reply to the criticism that appeared in the newspapers. I hope hon. Members will try to understand matters in the proper spirit and offer constructive criticism, instead of merely depending upon some irresponsible news which appears in the correspondence columns of newspapers."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—"In this connexion, I would ask the Hon. Minister to at least have an enquiry into the allegations that have been made."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"What is the allegation?"

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—"A very valuable plant . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member cannot speak after the Minister's reply. If he wants, let him give notice of a question. I adjourn the House to Monday, 17th May 1954, till 8 a.m."

The House then adjourned.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS